

Public Agency Disaster Assistance Program

FEMA and State Assistance

Public Assistance, oriented to public entities, can supplement funding the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of a public facility or infrastructure which is damaged or destroyed by a disaster, as well as to reimburse the agencies for a portion of the costs associated with emergency work and debris removal due to the disaster.

Eligible applicants include state governments, local governments and any other political subdivision of the state, and federally recognized tribal nations. Certain private non-profit (PNP) organizations may also receive assistance. Eligible PNPs include educational, utility, irrigation, emergency, medical, rehabilitation, and temporary or permanent custodial care facilities (including those for the aged and disabled), and other PNP facilities that provide essential services of a governmental nature to the general public. All other PNPs must first apply to the SBA for a disaster loan. If the PNP is declined for an SBA loan or the loan does not cover all eligible damages, the applicant may reapply for FEMA assistance through the state.

As soon as practicable after a Presidential declaration, the state, assisted by FEMA, conducts the applicant briefings for state, local and PNP officials to inform them of the assistance available and how to apply. A 'Request for Public Assistance' must be filed with the state within 30 days after the area is designated eligible for assistance. Following the applicants briefing, a kickoff meeting is conducted where damages will be discussed, needs assessed, and a plan of action put in to place.

Damage Assessments

Two different types of formal damage assessment occur. One is assessment of damage to individuals, homes, and businesses. The other is assessment of damage to facilities owned and/or operated by public agencies, Indian Tribes, special purpose districts, and private non-profit organizations. For both types, an initial local assessment and completion of forms are necessary to identify the location and extent of damages. If sufficient damage occurred, formal joint local, state, and federal preliminary damage assessments (PDAs) are conducted.

Nevada Assistance Programs

Emergency Assistance Account (Nevada Revised Statutes 353.263)

This account is provided by direct legislative appropriation. The Division of Emergency Management is responsible for authorizing expenditures from this account when an emergency exists.

Disaster Relief Fund (NRS 353.2705)

This fund was created in 1997 as a way to stabilize the operations of the state in an emergency or disaster situation. The fund is administered by the Interim Finance Committee of the Legislature. The fund is intended for loans and/or grants to county, city or state agencies for activities accomplished in an emergency or disaster to protect life and property.

Homeowners Disaster Assistance Program (HDAP) In 2005, the Legislature set aside funds to be used for the purpose of providing grants to persons who are homeowners and occupants of homes that have been damaged or destroyed in an emergency or disaster. **This program is based on availability of funding.**